REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 3 and 6 are pending.

Claims 3 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Karger (US Patent No. 6,430,618) in view of Colyer (US Patent No. 6,023,722).

Claims 3 and 6 are amended, thus, claims 3 and 6 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been introduced in this Amendment. The foregoing rejections are hereby traversed.

35 USC 103 REJECTION

PRIOR ART

KARGER & COLYER

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested, because it is believed that in view of the Examiner's comments, the amendments and remarks clarify the patentably distinguishing features of the present invention over the relied upon references to place the application in condition for allowance.

The claimed present invention relates to server management of processing requests by the same client/user, as recited in independent claims 3 and 6. However, an object of Karger is to reduce both network traffic and overloaded servers in a caching system (see, column 2, lines 6-8 of Karger). Therefore, Karger relates to distributing information requests by a client to servers (column 1, lines 15-18). To be concrete, in Karger, a client information request is mapped to a location in a mathematical mapping space (column 6, lines 22-34; and column 9, lines 18-20). Karger in column 2, lines 8-22, discloses that frequently requested documents are copied from the original server to a cache server, and client requests are forwarded through the cache server. More specifically, the Karger system comprises the original sites, the cache servers, and the clients as shown in Figs. 1A and 1B, and Karger provides a consistent hashing so that for most of the set of information requests by a client, the cache server allocation is consistent even as resources (servers) are added and removed (column 6, lines 22-34). Therefore, Karger relates to distributing information requests by a client to servers (column 1,

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lines 15-18), but fails to disclose or suggest the present invention's server management of processing requests by the same client/user, as recited in independent claims 3 and 6.

Further, Colyer discloses a high-availability computer server system capable of serving a large number of requests received from a plurality of computer client devices connected through a network (Abstract). Colyer also does not disclose or suggest the present claimed invention's management of processing requests by the same client/user.

To clarify the patentably distinguishing features of the present claimed invention (see Examiner's comments in page 6, last paragraph), independent claims 3 and 6, using claim 3 as an example are amended as follows.

> 3.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A server, comprising:
>
> ...
>
> a request reading unit which reads out one of said at least one processing request as a first processing request from the first clientsame client stored in said request storing unit;
>
> a determination unit which *determines whether another from the same client a subsequently received processing request which is identical to the first processing request received from the first-clientsame client*, has already been processed;
>
> an execution unit which executes processing of the subsequent processing request received from the first-clientsame client, and stores a result of the processing in said result storing unit when said determination unit *determines that from the same client no other processing request which is identical to the subsequent processing request received from the first clientsame client has been processed*;
>
> a transmission unit which transmits to the first-clientsame client said result of the processing executed by said execution unit when said determination unit determines that from the same client no other processing request which is identical to the subsequent processing request received from the firstsame client has been processed, and transmits to the firstsame client one of said at least one processing result corresponding to the first processing request received from the firstsame client when said determination unit determines that anotherfrom the same client the subsequent processing request which is identical to the first processing request received from the firstsame client, has already been processed; and
>
> ... (emphasis added).

Therefore, in the present invention, to avoid processing identical processing requests from a same client/user, such as user registration process requests, when the server 1 receives

identical requests from the same client/user, the server 1 prevents the requests for processing (which, for example, may be mistakenly duplicated) from being processed. A benefit of the present claimed invention is to provide a server which prevents occurrence of a mismatch between data when the server receives identical processing requests from the same client/user (see page 3, lines 10-12, of the present Application).

Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, in page 9, line 18 to page 11, line 1, of the present Application.
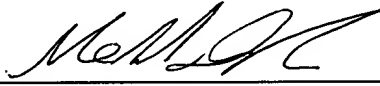
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and the remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3 and 6, and allowance of claims 3 and 6 is respectfully requested.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: ____August 16, 2004____   By: _____

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